

# The Hand Puppet Body

## **Tools and Materials List:**

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1- large paper bag                             | tailor's chalk (optional)     |
| 1 yd - of fabric<br>(curtain lining or jersey) | sewing shears                 |
| pencil or pen                                  | sewing needle                 |
| sewing pins                                    | thread (same color as fabric) |

## **Make a paper pattern:**

1. Fold a sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Lay one hand on the paper as shown in figure 1. Using a lead pencil draw around the outline of the hand and forearm (The glove should be long enough to reach almost to your elbow.) After drawing this outline, draw another line about 2 cm (3/4 in.) away from the hand and about 3 cm (1-1/4 in) away from the forearm.. (If the puppet will always be used on this hand, proceed to the next step. If the puppet may be used on either hand, turn your hand over and place it back over the previously drawn outline and draw around your hand in this position. Then make a smooth curve around both outlines.)
2. Ensure that the neck portion will be wide enough to go over the puppet's neck once the neck is tucked in and stitched. Also, be sure that the body is wide enough to get your hand in and out easily. Now cut out the paper pattern

## **Cut out the pattern**

3. Lay out the pattern following the nap onto a double layer of fabric (right-side to right-side). Using sewing pins pin the pattern to the fabric. Using tailor's chalk draw the outline of the pattern onto the fabric. Stitch around the chalk outline, leaving the neck and bottom open. After stitching insert your hand into the glove to determine the comfort as well as the ease of inserting and removing the hand. If necessary, unstitch and restitch allowing for any adjustments.
4. Cut out the glove within 5-6mm (1/4 in.) of the stitching and snip into the corners between neck and arms. (Cut right up to but not through the stitching) to avoid the glove pulling at these points when reversed. Reverse the glove so that the seams are inside.

## **Attach the glove to the head**

5. Glue the glove to the puppet's neck, securing it with a strong draw-thread.

